

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-7 and 9 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Rejection under 35 USC 102

Claims 1, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0008677). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

First, it is noted that the Examiner has also described the relevance of this reference to claims 2, 3, 5, 7 and 12, but not included these claims in the statement of the rejection. Since these claims were indicated as being rejected in the Office Action Summary and are not described elsewhere, it is assumed that the rejection is meant to apply to these claims as well. Accordingly, the present response is based on this understanding of the rejection.

Further, it is noted that claims 11-14 have been cancelled, rendering this part of the rejection moot. Also, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations previously found in claims 8 and 10. Since this rejection was not applied against claim 8 or 10, Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome.

Likewise, claims 2-7 and 9, which depend from allowable claim 1, are also considered to be allowable.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claims 4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Kim of view of Headon (U.S. Patent 6,324,386). Claims 8, 9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Kim in view of Sirola (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0012769). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Kim in view of Kishimoto (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0094846). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 8, 10 and 11 have now been cancelled, rendering this part of the rejection moot. The limitations of claims 8 and 10 have been added to claim 1. Remaining claims 4, 6 and 9 depend from claim 1. Since none of these rejections were applied against the combination of claims 1, 8, and 10, Applicants submit that all of these rejections are overcome.

Claim 1, then, includes a combination of features that has never been rejected. However, the claim will now be considered in regard to a combination of the three references applied against claims 1, 8 and 10 individually. Thus, claim 1 will be considered in regard to a combination of Kim, Sirola and Kishimoto et al.

The Examiner states that Kim shows a method of providing a replaceable sliding cover having a body with at least one display

panel and a protective cover with a window opening. However, the sliding cover is for a replacement only and does not expose different areas of the display panel. It also does not disclose that a surface of the cover has a plurality of function keys. It also does not show a picture switching switch. Kim et al. also does not show a display panel with different pictures according to different positions of the sliding cover.

The Examiner cited Sirola et al. to show a PDA with a protective transparent cover, where the surface of the cover has a plurality of function keys. Applicants submit that this reference shows a portable phone with a cover which rotates by a hinge for protection. The cover does not slide to expose different areas of a display panel. Thus, since Kim et al. is a replaceable sliding cover and Sirola et al. is a rotating cover that is not replaceable, to combine these two would not be obvious. Further, it is noted that Sirola et al. does not disclose the picture switching switch or a display panel having different pictures according to different positions of the sliding cover.

The Examiner cited Kishimoto et al. to show a method where the display region position and size is changed in accordance with the contents of the information to be displayed. Applicants submit that Kishimoto et al. is a portable phone with a rotating cover that is not replaceable. It does not disclose a sliding cover exposing different areas of a display panel and does not disclose a surface

having a plurality of function keys. Although Kishimoto et al. discloses the information area having different sizes for different pictures, it does not disclose a display panel showing different pictures according to different positions of the sliding cover. It also does not disclose the picture switching switch.

Applicants submit that it would not be obvious to combine the teachings of these three references together. Two of the references show a rotating cover and a third only shows a cover which is slidable for replacement. None of the three references show a sliding cover which exposes different areas of a display panel. Only Sirola et al. shows a cover with any concept of having function keys. However, even in this reference, the keys are not separate, but the cover merely bends to allow activation of the underlying areas in the body of the device. Further, the references do not show the picture switching switch. For these reasons, Applicants submit that it would not be obvious to combine the two references and that even the combination would not teach the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-7 and 9 are allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the references relied upon by the Examiner, either alone or in combination. In view of this,

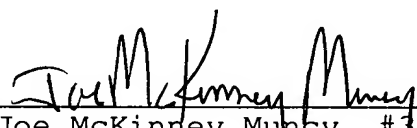
reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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